

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A metal-coated abrasive comprising a bonding metal composed of nickel-phosphorous and plural abrasive grains bonded by the bonding metal.
2. (currently amended): The metal-coated abrasive according to claim 1, wherein surfaces of the abrasive grains are directly coated with a metal layer.
3. (original): The metal-coated abrasive according to claim 2, wherein the metal layer, with which the abrasive grains are coated, is formed of plural layers.
4. (original): The metal-coated abrasive according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the metal layer, with which the abrasive grains are coated, contains at least one metal selected from the group consisting of nickel, nickel-phosphorus, cobalt, cobalt-phosphorus, titanium, copper, chromium, iron, zirconium, niobium, molybdenum, and tantalum.
5. (original): The metal-coated abrasive according to claim 4, wherein the metal layer, with which the abrasive grains are coated, contains nickel or nickel-phosphorus.

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6. (original): The metal-coated abrasive according to claim 4, wherein the metal layer other than an outermost metal layer, with which the abrasive grains are coated, contains cobalt or cobalt-phosphorus.

7. (currently amended): The metal-coated abrasive according to ~~any one of claims 3 to 6~~claim 3, wherein the outermost metal layer of the metal layer, with which the abrasive grains are coated, is formed of either nickel or nickel-phosphorus.

8. (original): The metal-coated abrasive according to claim 2, wherein the metal layer, with which the abrasive grains are coated, is formed of a single layer of nickel or nickel-phosphorus.

9. (currently amended): The metal-coated abrasive according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~claim 1, wherein the bonding metal, by which the abrasive grains are bonded, further contains at least one metal selected from the group consisting of nickel, ~~nickel-phosphorus~~, cobalt and cobalt-phosphorus.

10. (original): The metal-coated abrasive according to claim 9, wherein the metal, by which the abrasive grains are bonded, is nickel or nickel-phosphorus.

11. (currently amended): The metal-coated abrasive according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~claim 1, wherein the abrasive grains have an average grain size of 0.5 to 300 μm .

12. (original): The metal-coated abrasive according to claim 11, wherein the abrasive grains have an average grain size of 1 to 150 μm .

13. (currently amended): The metal-coated abrasive according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~claim 1, wherein the abrasive grains comprise at least one selected from the group consisting of cubic boron nitride, diamond, alumina and silicon carbide.

14. (original): The metal-coated abrasive according to claim 13, wherein the abrasive grains comprise one of cubic boron nitride, diamond, and a mixture thereof.

15. (currently amended): The metal-coated abrasive according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~claim 1, wherein an average of 2 to 100 abrasive grains ~~are~~is bonded by the bonding metal.

16. (currently amended): The metal-coated abrasive according to claim 15, wherein an average of 2 to 50 abrasive grains ~~are~~is bonded by the bonding metal.

17. (currently amended): A grinding wheel using a metal-coated abrasive containing 5% by weight or more of the metal-coated abrasive of ~~any one of claims 1 to 16~~claim 1.

18. (original): The grinding wheel according to claim 17, which is a resinoid grinding wheel.

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19. (currently amended): Coated abrasives using the metal-coated abrasive of ~~any one of claims 1 to 16~~claim 1.

20. (currently amended): A method of producing the metal-coated abrasive of ~~any one of claims 2 to 8~~claim 2, which comprises forming a metal layer, with which abrasive grains are coated, using an electroplating or electroless plating method.

21. (currently amended): A method of producing the metal-coated abrasive of ~~any one of claims 1 to 16~~claim 1, which comprises bonding plural abrasive grains by a metal using an electroplating or electroless plating method.

22. (currently amended): A method of producing the metal-coated abrasive of ~~any one of claims 2 to 16~~claim 2, which comprises dipping abrasive grains in an electroplating or electroless plating bath to form a metal layer on the surface of the abrasive grains while stirring, and bonding the abrasive grains coated with the metal layer while gently stirring.